

# ODYSSEY VOCABULARY

## BOOKS 1-12

**self-effacing** (adj) – tending to be modest about achievements and avoiding undue attention

**hubris** (noun) – excessive pride or arrogance; leads to downfall of a hero

**timorous** (adj) – timid, fearful about the future

**impetus** (noun) – something that provides energy or motivation to start or accomplish a goal

**courteous** (adj) – polite, respectful, or considerate in manner

**squander** (verb) – waste (something, esp. money or time) in a reckless and foolish manner

**malice** (noun) – the intention or desire to do evil; ill will

**placate** (verb) – to make one less angry, upset, or hostile by doing or saying things designed to please

**ruse** (noun) – a clever trick or plot used to deceive others

**audacity** (noun) – the willingness to take bold risks; rude or disrespectful behavior

## BOOKS 13-24

**egregious** (adj) – conspicuously bad or offensive to an extraordinary degree

**flout** (verb) – to show contempt for a law or convention by openly disobeying or defying it

**indignation** (noun) – anger or annoyance provoked by what is perceived as unfair treatment or situation

**vagrant** (noun) – a person without a settled home who wanders and lives by begging

**portent** (noun) – ominous or prophetic indication of things to come

**auspicious** (adj) – favorable; promising; marked by lucky signs or good omens

**caveat** (noun) – something said as a warning, caution, or qualification [*caveat emptor* = buyer beware]

**formidable** (adj) – difficult to deal with or overcome

**reprisal** (noun) – strong or violent retaliation in response to an enemy's action

**rectify** (verb) – to put something right, to fix